



ALTERNATIVE RESPONSE

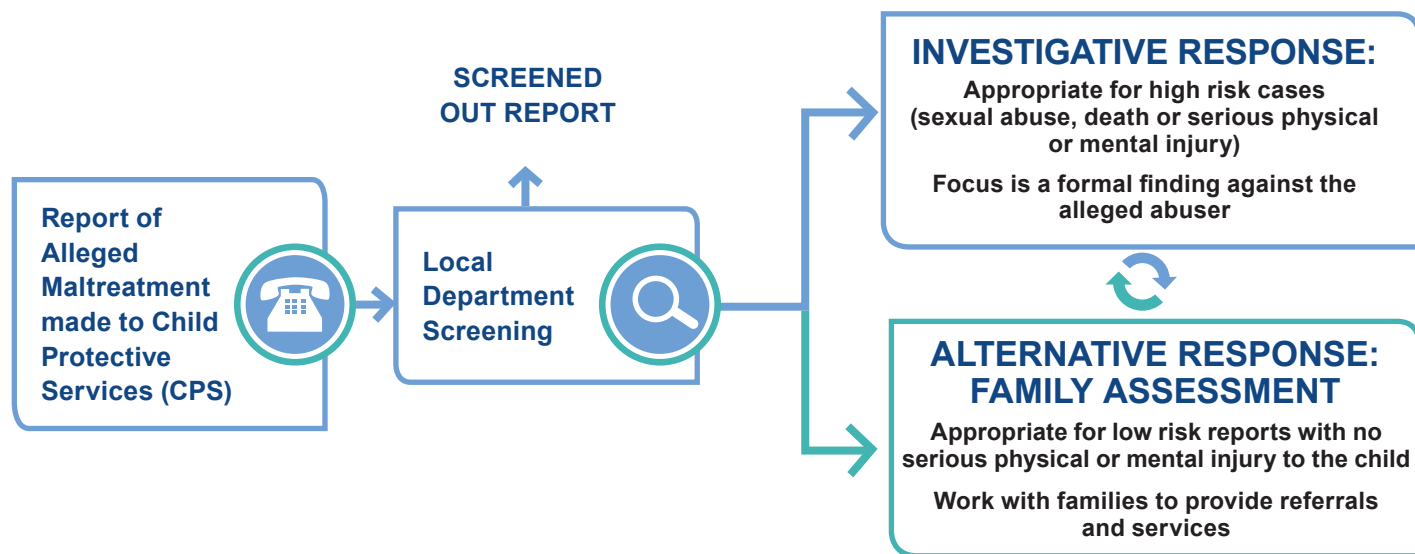
What is Alternative Response? One Size Does Not Fit All.

Alternative Response treats low risk cases of child abuse and neglect differently by **engaging families** instead of investigating them. Alternative Response is a proven way to help **keep kids safe** and **strengthen families** in low risk cases.



Investigative Response vs. Alternative Response

Cases that are not screened out will be assigned to one of two tracks: Investigative Response or Alternative Response. Investigative Responses will be handled the same way they are today, resulting in a formal finding. Low risk reports can be pursued through Alternative Response. Both approaches address the family's needs and put in place appropriate measures to protect the child.



4,386

Avg. # of child maltreatment reports received per month



2,210

Avg. # of new screened in CPS cases started per month

Percent of CPS cases referred to Alternative Response in **five initial counties.**

32%

Alternative Response will be phased in across Maryland with full implementation expected by July 2014.

dhr.maryland.gov/alternativeresponse

